

- ◆ According to the 2000 U.S. Census report, women make up 51% of the 6,080,485 population in Indiana and 35.7% of Indiana's female population is under the age of 18. This 51% of the population is the constituency that the ICW serves on a daily basis.
- ◆ The ICW is charged with assessing the needs of Indiana women and their families and with promoting the full participation of Indiana Women in all aspects of society.
- ◆ The ICW provides outreach, support and education to Hoosier women while serving as a liaison between government and private interest groups concerned with services for women.
- ◆ The ICW informs leaders of business, education, government and media of the nature and scope of the problem of sex discrimination with a view to enlist their support in working toward improvement.
- ◆ The commission also promotes the consideration of qualified women for all levels of government and oversees the coordination and assessment of programs in all state agencies as they affect women.
- ◆ The ICW is required to evaluate laws and governmental policies with respect to the needs of women, and to monitor legislation and other legal developments in order to make recommendations to the Indiana General Assembly and the Governor on issues concerning women. As well, the Commission is focusing on ways to enhance the economic status of Indiana women.

## WOMEN'S HEALTH

The ICW, in collaboration with the Office of Women's Health at the Indiana State Department of Health, made available the ***Women's Health Mini Grant Program*** to Indiana community organizations, government agencies, and educational facilities. These grants are known to provide for the development of programs that promote healthy behaviors in women and girls in Indiana. In 2001, the topic for the grant program was domestic violence. A combined total of \$79,550 was awarded to eight programs across the State. These eight programs focused on domestic violence prevention, education and intervention.

The following organizations were the 2001-2002 grantees:

- **Women's Homeless Prevention Program**  
Marion County
- **Battered Women, Silent Tears: An Investigation into Domestic Violence in America**  
Allen & Surrounding Counties
- **Henry County Domestic Violence Project**  
Henry County
- **Project SANE/SART**  
Dubois, Crawford, Orange, Perry, and Spencer Counties
- **Recognizing Family Violence**  
Porter, Lake and Starke County
- **Reflections Self-Esteem/Support Group**  
Benton, Carroll, Clinton, Tippecanoe, Warren and White Counties
- **Directions! Domestic Violence Programming**  
Dearborn, Franklin, Ohio, Ripley and Switzerland Counties

The ICW hosted the ***Breast Cancer Illumination Initiative*** in the State of Indiana for the first time in collaboration with the Estee Lauder Global Landmarks Illumination Project in 2001. The Indianapolis Artsgarden was illuminated in pink lights on October 1<sup>st</sup> to promote awareness about breast cancer issues, especially the importance of early detection. In the fall of 2001, the Indiana Breast Cancer Alliance (IBCA) was formed, and includes members from the healthcare community, advocates, state agencies, not for profit supporters, and the ICW. The IBCA hosted the 2002 Illumination Program. Once again the Indianapolis Artsgarden was bathed in pink lights while approximately 100 breast cancer survivors, advocates and friends heard from various speakers including State Senator and survivor Beverly Gard, survivor Maria Wilson, survivor Martha Bonds, and First Lady of the City of Indianapolis-Amy Minick Peterson. Dr. Greg Wilson with the Indiana State Department of Health read a proclamation from Governor O'Bannon proclaiming October as ***Breast Cancer Awareness Month***.

WOMEN AND THE ECONOMY

WOMEN AS LEADERS & IN GOVERNMENT